

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, ASEAN

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SUBJECT: U.S.-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS: INVESTMENT
ISSUES

REFS: A) STATE 152723; B) STATE 156112; C) STATE 158276

1. BEFORE THE JULY 13-14 MEETING TO PREPARE FOR U.S.-ASEAN
CONSULTATIONS, PLEASE PROVIDE MRS. MANALO WITH THE SUG-

GESTIONS INDICATED BELOW ON THE CONTENT OF THE INVESTMENT
ITEM OF THE AGENDA.

2. WE WOULD EXPECT AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON INVESTMENT
OPPORTUNITIES IN ASEAN TO BE ONE OF THE MAIN FOCAL POINTS
OF THE CONSULTATIONS. IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY A
NUMBER OF AREAS IN WHICH THE U.S. MIGHT USEFULLY BE ABLE TO
COOPERATE WITH ASEAN EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INVESTMENT
IN THE REGION.

3. WE HAVE IN MIND THAT THE DISCUSSION WOULD ENCOMPASS THE
FOLLOWING TOPICS:

A. MEASURES UNDER CONSIDERATION BY ASEAN COUNTRIES TO
IMPROVE THE CLIMATE FOR DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT
AND TO COORDINATE NATIONAL POLICIES TO THIS END. NOTING
THAT THE FOURTH ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS MEETING EXPRESSED

ENCOURAGEMENT OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AMONG MEMBERS ON
INVESTMENT GUARANTEES AND TAXATION, THE U.S. DELEGATION
WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE STATUS OF SUCH EFFORTS AND
WHETHER THERE ARE WAYS IN WHICH THE U.S. COULD ASSIST.

B. POSSIBLE STEPS THAT THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MIGHT
TAKE WITHIN ITS CHARTER TO PROMOTE PRIVATE INVESTMENT.

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C. ASEAN VIEWS REGARDING U.S. POLICIES AND PROGRAMS
AFFECTING PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN THE REGION. ONE ITEM
UNDER THIS HEADING, AS HAS BEEN AGREED, WOULD BE
LIMITATION OF TAX DEFERRAL FOR FOREIGN INCOME OF U.S.
COMPANIES OVERSEAS. THE U.S. DELEGATION WILL BE PREPARED
AS WELL TO DISCUSS OPIC AND OTHER U.S. PROGRAMS AFFECTING
PRIVATE INVESTMENT.

D. METHODS OF IMPROVING CONTACTS AND INTERCHANGE AMONG
U.S. AND ASEAN PRIVATE BUSINESS SECTORS. UNDER THIS
TOPIC WE WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF THE CHANNELS
OF COMMUNICATION THAT SHOULD BE USED BY U.S. FIRMS
INTERESTED IN DOING BUSINESS ON A REGION-WIDE BASIS.
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